GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2635
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
INNOVATIVE METHODS IN UNIVERSITIES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had asked the universities and educational institutions to adopt innovative methods to augment their infrastructure,teaching and research capabilities;

(b) if so. whether massive qualitative expansion of the country`s educational system would put its infrastructure under stress and there could also be a shortage of teachers;

(c) whether the Government had also asked the authorities concerned to implement institutional reforms in universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken up by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b): While the University Grants Commission (UGC) provides assistance to eligible Universities for development of their infrastructure,teaching and research capabilities, development of such capabilities in State funded Institutions is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government.The UGC has a scheme of Incentives for External Resource Mobilisation,under which UGC provides incentive grants up to the extent of 25 per cent of the contribution,(subject to a maximum of Rs.50.00 lakh,per annum)received by the eligible universities,which mobilise external resources through participation/contribution/consultancy from individual Indians,Non-resident Indians,Alumni Associates,public and family trusts, industrial/business houses,etc.The universities may create a corpus with mobilised funds or may utilise the resources on certain specified items,including construction/renovation of buildings,purchase of equipments,purchase of books and journals,innovative and academic programmes including research and extension work.

(c)to(e): The UGC has written to the universities to adopt administrative and academic reforms such as semester system,credit based evaluation,continuous and internal evaluation, curriculum development, etc.It has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. A. Gnanam,former Vice Chancellor of Pondicherry University,to prepare a white paper on administrative and academic reforms.A Committee has also been constituted by UGC under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal, former Chairman,UGC to prepare curricular framework for higher education.